

SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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AUTHORITY

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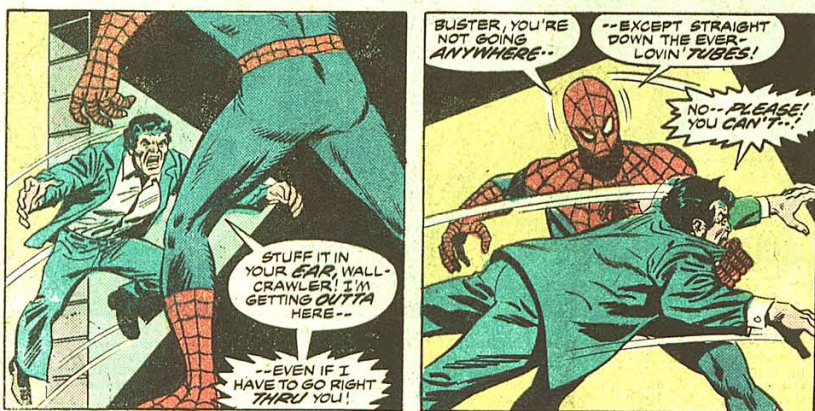
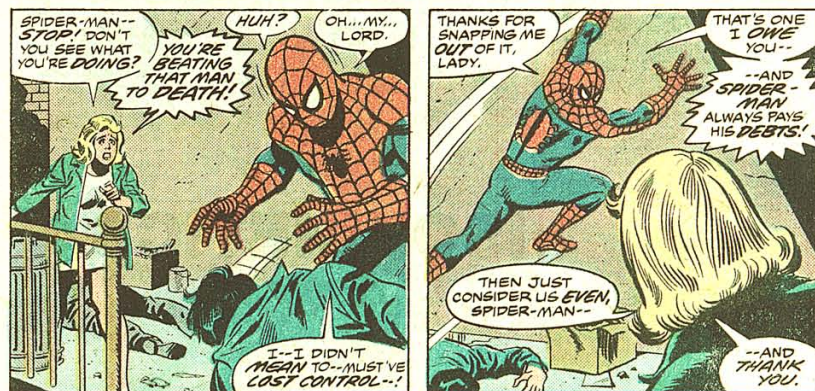
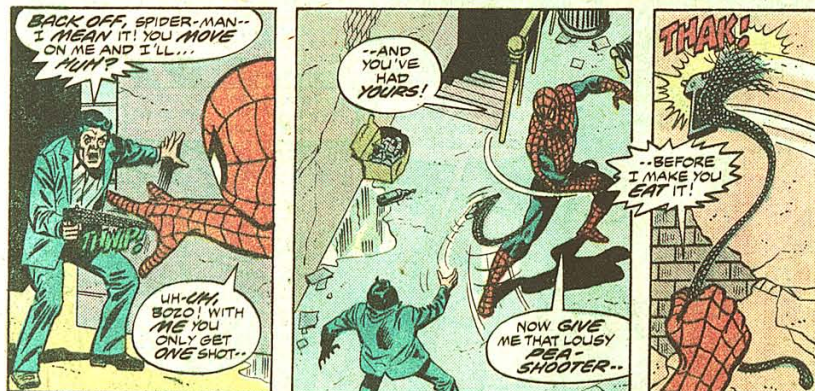
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



THIS TIME,
WEBHEAD--I'M
GONNA PLASTER
YA TO THE
WALL!

AND HE HAS
THE POWER TO
DO IT! HOW CAN
I BEAT THE
GUY... WHEN MY
WEBBING
GOES RIGHT
THRU HIM?

**THE SANDMAN
ALWAYS STRIKES
TWICE!**



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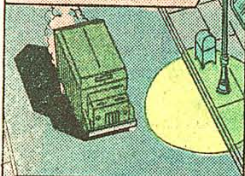
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AND IF THAT'S NOT A CUE TO SWITCH SCENES, THIS ISN'T THE MAG WE THINK IT IS--



--SO WHAT SAY WE CUT ACROSS TOWN AND PICK UP ON A RATHER COMMON-LOOKING ARMORED CAR--

"ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TRANSPORT PRISONER #943572--FLINT MARKO, ALIAS WILLIAM BAKER--FROM THE CITY JAIL TO THE FEDERAL PEN--



"--AND AFTER THAT IT'S NOT OUR PROB--

SOMETHING'S GOING ON OUT THERE!



THAT SHOCK-BOMB MUST'VE BLOWN OUT THE ENGINE--



IT ALSO CRACKED THE PLEXI-GLASS TUBE! MARKO IS TRYING TO...

--CARRYING A MOST UNCOMMON CARGO!

I STILL DON'T SEE WHY THEY NEED US ALONG FOR THIS.

THERE'S NO WAY MARKO GONNA BREAK OUT OF THAT SPECIAL PLEXI-GLASS TUBE!

YOU KNOW THAT AND I KNOW IT--



--BUT THIS GUY'S BUSTED JAIL TOO MANY TIMES FOR THE BOYS UPSTAIRS TO TAKE ANY CHANCES!



MOVE IT, NUMBER 32-- WHILE THAT MEAT WAGON'S STILL OUTTA COMMISSION!

WE BLOW THIS OPERATION-- AND THE BOSS IS GONNA EAT US ALIVE!



NOT "TRYING," BLUE-BOY-- I'M DOIN' IT!

YA DIDN'T THINK THAT OVERGROWN TEST-TUBE WAS GONNA HOLD ME FER LONG, DID YA?



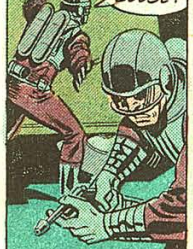
IF YA DID, CREEPS-- YA DESERVE THIS!!



HEY, MARKO-- EVERYTHING OKAY IN THERE? YEAH-- SWELL.

GREAT, YOU JUST HANG ON A MINUTE. WE GOT US A LASER-TORCH OUT HERE.

WE'RE GONNA CUT YOU LOOSE!



DON'T BOTHER, CHUM. I DON'T NEED NO HELP.

WHA--? SOME KIND A STUFF-- POURIN' OUTTA THE AIR-VENT!



NOT STUFF, TURKEY-- SAND!

DIDN'T YA KNOW WHO YOU WAS BUSTIN' OUTTA THAT CRUMMY TIN-CAN?

FER YER INFORMATION, GANG--



--MY MONIKER'S-- THE SANDMAN!!



OKAY BUDDY-- IT'S ANSWER TIME! WHY'D YOU GUYS FREE ME? AND WHO...?

SORRY MARKO-- BUT ANSWERS'LL HAVE TO WAIT! THAT'S OUR RIDE COMING.



NOW LET'S MOVE IT, FELLA. THIS STREET'LL BE CRAWLIN' WITH COPS IN A MINUTE!

I'M COMIN' PUNK-- BUT I AIN'T HAPPY ABOUT IT!



LOOK, DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON US, MARKO. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS TO ASK--

--YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL YOU MEET--THE BOSS!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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You might want to carry a few extra ones, too. Then, if you meet a werewolf, you can give him something to sink his teeth into instead of you.

A LITTLE LESS THAN A MEAL. A LITTLE MORE THAN A SNACK.



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OKAY, NOW THAT WE'VE INTRO-
DUCED THE MAJOR CHARAC-
TERS FOR THIS ISSUE, LET'S
LOOK IN ON A MINOR ONE.

WE FIRST MET THIS
MYSTERIOUS BOWERY
DERELICT BACK IN
SPIDER-MAN #52.



MUST MAKE MY
MOVE SWIFTLY--
WHILE HE'S
STILL STUNNED--
THEN ESCAPE
BY THE FALL!
HE CAN SUMMON
THE POLICE!

I'LL STEAL
HIS
WALLET--
BEFORE HE
CAN SUMMON
THE POLICE!



ONLY IN THE
BOTTLE
CAN I...

HE CAN'T
HAVE FOUND
ME AGAIN!

NO--NOT
AGAIN!



HE WAS IN DESPERATE STRAITS
THEN--

--AND HIS SITUATION
DOESN'T SEEM TO
HAVE IMPROVED
MUCH.

THIS IS MY
CHANCE! THERE'S
NOBODY ELSE IN
SIGHT--

--AND HERE COMES
MY UNWITTING
VICTIM!



IT CURDLES MY
VERY SOUL TO
SEE MYSELF
REDUCED
TO THIS--

--MUGGING
HAPLESS
STROLLERS
FOR THE
MONEY
IN THEIR
POCKETS--



HAVE TO GET AWAY--
HAVE TO FLEE!

HAVE TO GO
SOMEWHERE HE
CAN'T FIND ME!

LORD, THERE
MUST BE SOME-
WHERE HE CAN'T
FIND ME!

WH-WHAT
HAPPEN-
ED--?!



I'VE GOT TO TIME THIS
CAREFULLY-- WAIT
UNTIL HE'S ALMOST
UPON ME-- THEN--

PERFECT!
I TRIPPED HIM
PRECISELY AS
PLANNED!

HEY--?!



--BUT WHAT
OTHER CHOICE
HAVE I?

ONLY MONEY
CAN PROVIDE
ME WITH THE
ALCOHOL
I CRAVE--

--AND ONLY
IN THE
BOTTLE
CAN I ESCAPE
THE NIGHT-
MARES!



SOMEONE KNOCKED
ME DOWN-- TRIED
TO ROB ME!

BUT HE'S
RUNNING OFF--
WITHOUT MY
WALLET!

I TELL YA--
THIS CITY GETS
CRAZIER
EVERY DAY!



AND, HAVING WHETTED YOUR
CURIOSITY REGARDING OUR
THREADBARE FUGITIVE, LET'S
MYSTERIOUS PURSUER, LET'S
SHIFT ONCE AGAIN--

--TO A LOCATION SO SECRET
EVEN WE DON'T KNOW WHERE
IT IS.

MAN, I AIN'T WORN
THESE THREADS IN A
WHILE. *

WHERE'D YA
GET 'EM?

--TO ACCOMPLISH
THE LITTLE TASK
I HAVE PLANNED
FOR YOU!

HEY, I DON'T
REMEMBER
VOLUN-
TEERIN'--
FER NOTHIN'!

* SINCE MARVEL TEAM-UP
#2, TO BE PRECISE. --LEN.



OKAY,
BIGSHOT--
I'LL DO
YER LITTLE
JOB FER
YA.

GUESS I
OWE YA THAT
MUCH FER
SPRINGIN' ME.

AGREE! NOW LISTEN
CLOSELY, SANDMAN--
I DISLIKE HAVING TO
REPEAT MYSELF.

I REQUIRE
A PARTICULAR
MECHANISM
STORED AT A
CERTAIN RE-
SEARCH
FACILITY
ACROSS TOWN.

IT IS YOUR
JOB TO BRING ME
THAT MECHANISM--
BY WHATEVER
MEANS
NECESSARY!

BUT AFTER
THIS, WE'RE
EVEN!
GOT ME?

THAT'S
ALL, HUH?



THAT SHOULD NOT CONCERN
YOU, SANDMAN. ALL THAT
MATTERS IS THAT THEY'LL
BE REQUIRED--

--TO ACCOMPLISH
THE LITTLE TASK
I HAVE PLANNED
FOR YOU!

HEY, I DON'T
REMEMBER
VOLUN-
TEERIN'--
FER NOTHIN'!

--TO ACCOMPLISH
THE LITTLE TASK
I HAVE PLANNED
FOR YOU!

HEY, I DON'T
REMEMBER
VOLUN-
TEERIN'--
FER NOTHIN'!

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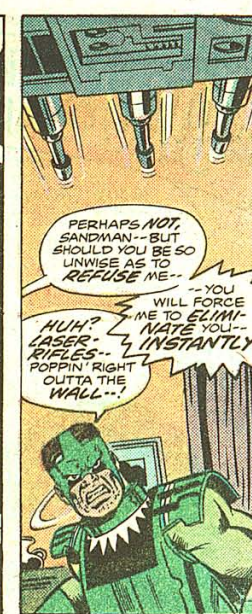
--TO ACCOMPLISH
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REMEMBER
VOLUN-
TEERIN'--
FER NOTHIN'!

--TO ACCOMPLISH
THE LITTLE TASK
I HAVE PLANNED
FOR YOU!



PERHAPS NOT,
SANDMAN-- BUT
SHOULD YOU BE SO
UNWISE AS TO
REFUSE ME--

--YOU
WILL FORCE
ME TO ELIMI-
NATE YOU--
INSTANTLY!

HUH? LASER-
RIFLES--
POPPIN' RIGHT
OUTTA THE
WALL--!

--YOU
WILL FORCE
ME TO ELIMI-
NATE YOU--
INSTANTLY!

HUH? LASER-
RIFLES--
POPPIN' RIGHT
OUTTA THE
WALL--!

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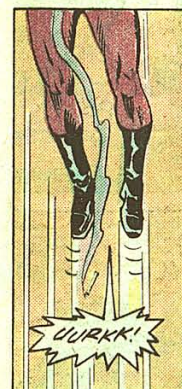
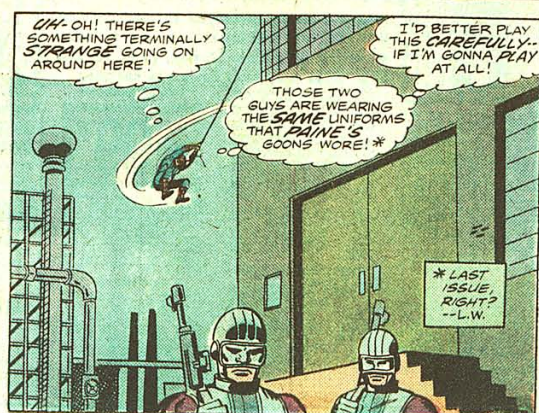
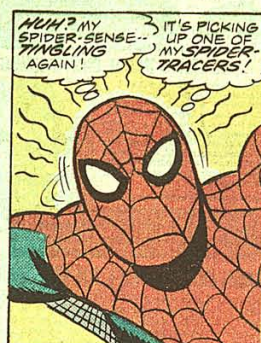
--YOU
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ME TO ELIMI-
NATE YOU--
INSTANTLY!

HUH? LASER-
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OUTTA THE
WALL--!

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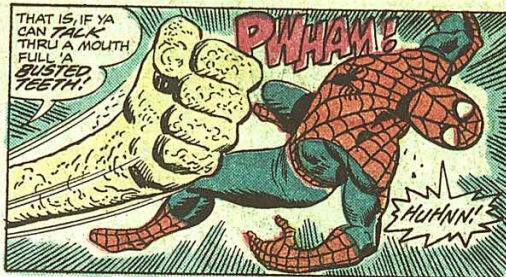
--YOU
WILL FORCE
ME TO ELIMI-
NATE YOU--
INSTANTLY!



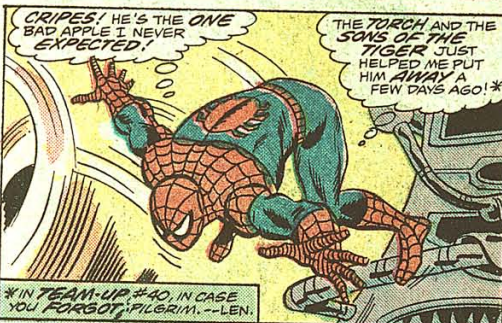


C'MON, WEBHEAD--DON'T BE SO FORMAL! WE KNOW EACH OTHER FAR TO LONG FER THAT!

YA CAN CALL ME **THE SANDMAN**, REMEMBER?



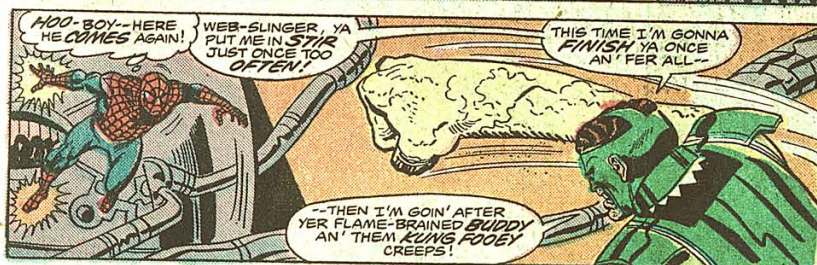
THAT IS, IF YA CAN TALK THRU A MOUTH FULL A BUSTED TEETH!



CRIPES! HE'S THE ONE BAD APPLE I NEVER EXPECTED!

THE TORCH AND THE SONS OF THE TIGER JUST HELPED ME PUT HIM AWAY A FEW DAYS AGO!*

*IN TEAM-UP #40, IN CASE YOU FORGOT, FILGRIM.--LEN.

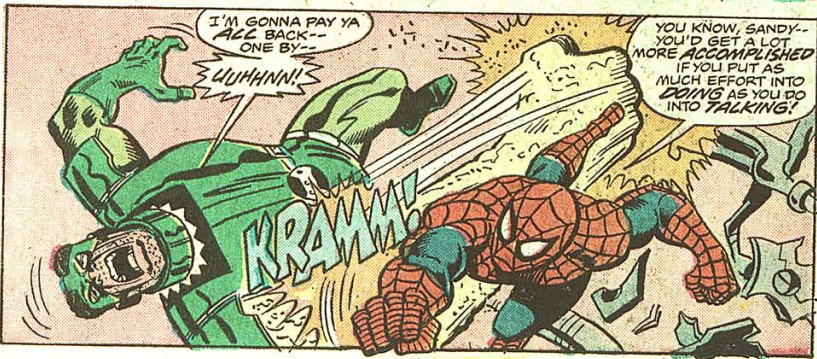


HOO-BOY--HERE HE COMES AGAIN!

WEB-SLINGER, YA PUT ME IN STIR JUST ONCE TOO OFTEN!

THIS TIME I'M GONNA FINISH YA ONCE AN' FER ALL--

--THEN I'M GOIN' AFTER YER FLAME-BRAINED BUDDY AN' THEM KING FOEY CREEPS!



I'M GONNA PAY YA ALL BACK--ONE BY--

LUHHNN!

YOU KNOW, SANDY--YOU'D GET A LOT MORE ACCOMPLISHED IF YOU PUT AS MUCH EFFORT INTO GOING AS YOU DO INTO TALKING!



ALWAYS A WISE-MOUTH, AIN'T-CHA?

WHEN I GET UP INSECT--I'M GONNA SAWT THAT MOUTH--

--PERMANENTLY!

IT'S NOT WHEN YOU GET UP, SANDY--



--IT'S IF!



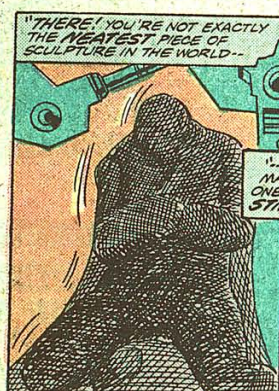
HEY--MY EYES!

BLASTED WEBBIN'S BLINNIN' ME--!!



YOU'RE PROBABLY BETTER OFF, GRIT-GRIN!

IF YOU COULD SEE WHAT I'M DOING, I GUARANTEE YOU WOULDN'T LIKE IT!



"THERE! YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY THE NEATEST PIECE OF SCULPTURE IN THE WORLD--



NOW YOU JUST STAY THERE, SANDY--WHILE I GO CALL THE COPS--

--OR I SWEAR NEXT TIME I'LL PLANT YOU!

"--BUT YOU MAKE FOR ONE FABULOUS STILL-LIFE!"



"I'M STILL LOOKING FOR SOME EXCUSE TO...HUN?

"MY WEB IS SAGGING--



"--COLLAPSING IN ON ITSELF LIKE--



"--LIKE SANDMAN WAS--

"--GONE!"

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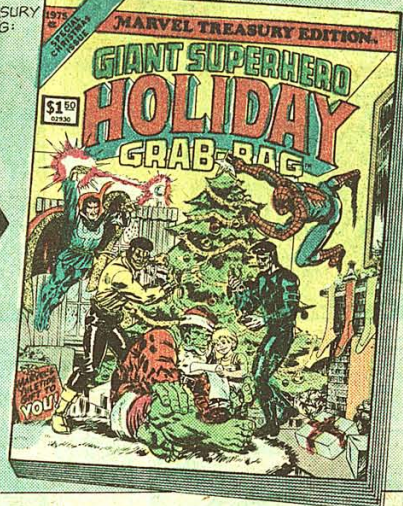
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THE SPIDERS WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:
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The substitution of our special text feature last issue in place of your letters means that we're truly swamped with mail, and most of it is hot and heavy and tremendously in favor of our special 150th issue. So we're gonna distill the representative essences to begin with, and then follow up with a couple full-blown letters and answers, just to make everyone happy. Ready? Here goes...

After reading SPIDER-MAN #150, I am happy to say that you've created another masterpiece. It kind of reminded me of some of Spidey's older issues. The combination of Archie Goodwin/Gil Kane was surprisingly good. Mr. Kane is one of my favorite artists, but I thought he did a good job on #150. Keep up the good work, Marvel.

Al Light
1134 Belmont Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007

SPIDER-MAN #150 manages to be both quite a success and quite a disappointment. For one thing, as you virtually admit in the course of the story, it's a remake of SPIDER-MAN #100, in which Spidey dreams up fights with old enemies. The battles here are handled well, and I've always liked plots with a lot of old villains, but the feeling of *deja vu* is inescapable.

Peter Sanderson
27 Gov. Belcher Lane
Milton, MA 02186

Well SOMETHING was needed to clear the air after the Gwen thing, and before the Wein takeover, and Kane/Goodwin filler was a perfect choice. And a very nice treat also!

Dean Mullaney
81 Delaware Street
Staten Island, NY 10304

SPIDER-MAN #150 was probably one of the finest Spidey's in a long time. It was a fitting epilogue to the Jackal-Gwen Stacy-Clone affair. I'm glad you did not draw the thing out over several issues. This one resolution was sufficient. Archie Goodwin's one of the best in the business, and I'm sure that he and Gil will both be sadly departing after this issue, a hardy thanks for a job well done.

Steve Andrews
6827 Wentworth
Richfield, MN 55423

Dear Spider-Men:

After reading all of the outraged letters on the return of Gwen Stacy, I feel an important point is being ignored. The angry reactions are coming from folks who think realism is the most important factor in comics.

Yet comics are NOT realistic, including matters of life and death. All major characters who die, die in highly dramatic situations, not the senseless accidents which can happen in reality. In fact, comic characters are vulnerable to death only if their dying advances the plot. We all know that Spider-Man is invulnerable and immortal as long as he is popular.

I know how the Gwen fans feel. Marvel killed off my favorite character once, and Marvel became less vital for me; I read back issues and sent many boringly-repetitive "bring back" letters. Finally, Marvel did so. The explanation for the return was pretty thin, but I didn't care!

Realism is important, but only as it contributes to enjoyment. The main purpose of comics is to entertain. Gwen was apparently essential to some readers' enjoyment. That's why

Gwen was and should have been brought back, despite any loss of believability.

Charlie Boatner
2727 Midtown Ct. Apt. 14
Palo Alto, CA 94303

You have made a very valid point, Charlie. We do strive for realism in the motivations and reactions of our characters—but in the context of *dramatic art*. Jade monosyllabic giants, wall-crawling web-slingers, golden-tressed thunder gods and the like are not inherently realistic; it is only the Marvel-style treatment of these characters that brings them to life with the sparkling verisimilitude that has made them near and dear to every Marvelite's heart. And we concur heartily with your conclusion: Our primary purpose has always been to entertain, and we hope above all never to lose sight of that goal.

And thanks for providing an alternate opinion on the Gwen controversy, Charlie—without taking sides here, we'd just like to add that differing viewpoints help to give us perspective. In comics, and in life. End of mini-moral!

Dear Marvel:

We've finally discovered how Peter Parker pays his rent and other bills, which seem insurmountable considering the pittance he gets from J.J.J. for his two-bit snapshots.

He's appearing in person at 7-11 stores across the country as a promotional gimmick to bolster sales of wonder lime, killer cola, and ka-pow orange slurpees with Spider-Man's image on the cups.

Are we to believe that Spidey is exploiting his own popularity in the Hollywood commercialist custom, and that his heroism is just publicity producing hoopla to implement his profit making scheme?

Or is he being blackmailed into this ploy by the conglomerate which holds some threat above his head? Maybe we saw a clone or something...

You owe it to your readers to unravel this mystery which has us all perplexed and bewildered.

Howard's Planet
c/o Bozo Manor 1847 Rogue Road
Yuba City, California

We'll try to be brief and straight with you, Planet person. There is a price to be paid for being the world's best-selling comics magazine or, to paraphrase, "With great fame there often comes wide exposure." As we've explained elsewhere, however, commercialism is not always the bogey it's made out to be. For instance, if our comics were non-commercial—i.e. unknown and unsaleable—we could not continue to exist, and there would be no SPIDER-MAN. Therefore, promotional tie-ins with places such as the 7-11 store benefit us by helping expose us to new audiences and, consequently, insure our own longevity.

And if they finally introduce the few straggling non-believers still lurking somewhere out there to this, the Magnificent Marvel Age of Comics, then they actually serve a very worthwhile purpose indeed, don't you agree?

Next ish—Marveldom Assembled reports on the authorial advent of Len Wein, so be here. Len will be waiting.

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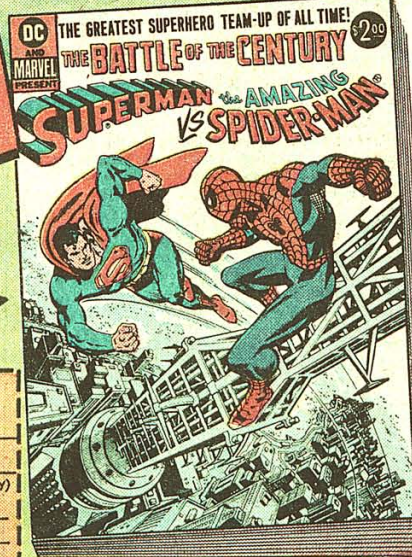
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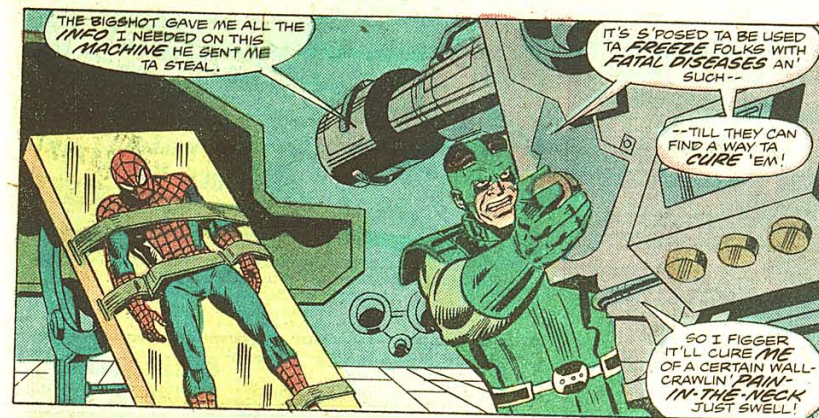
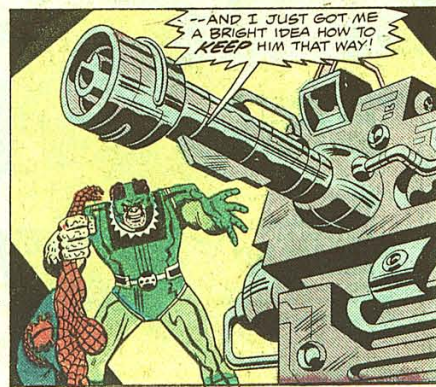
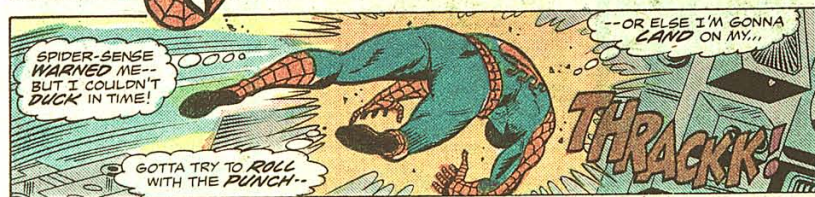
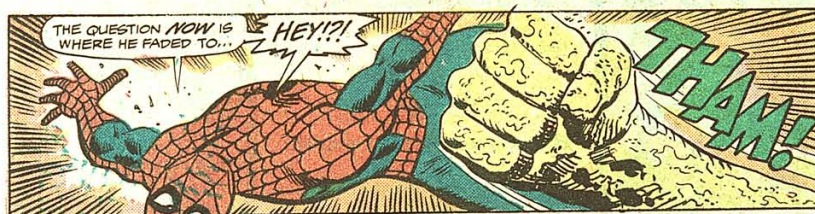
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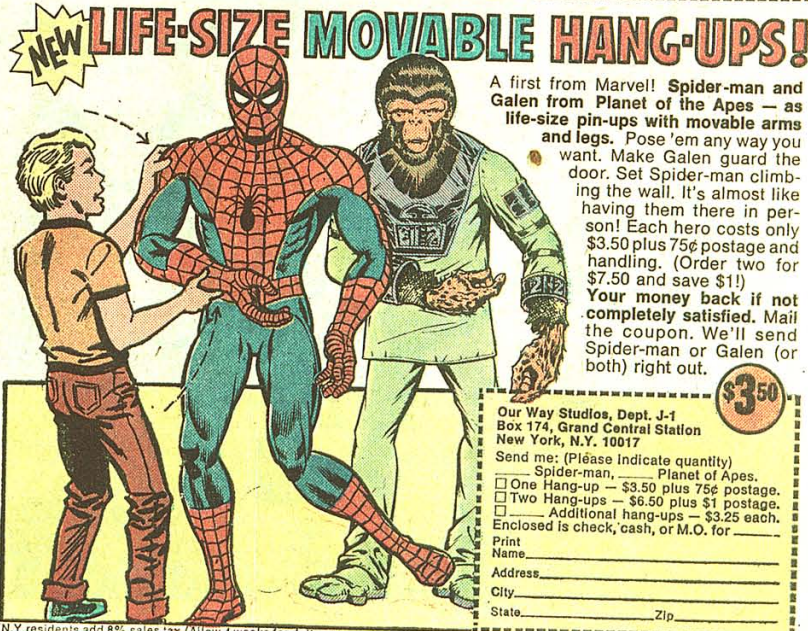


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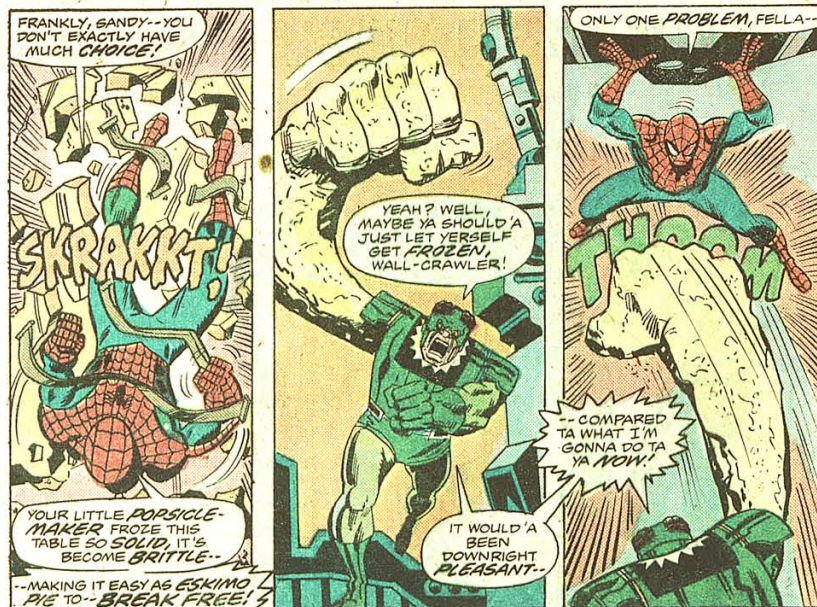
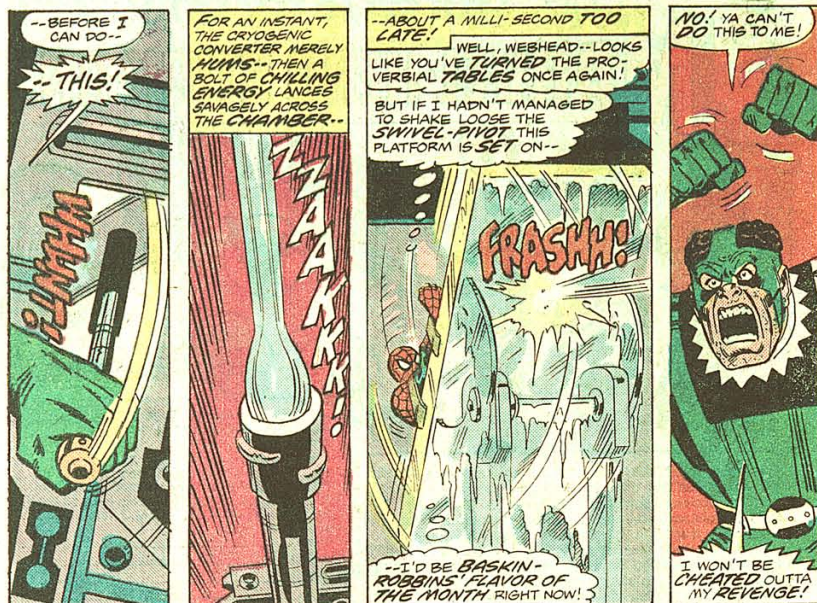


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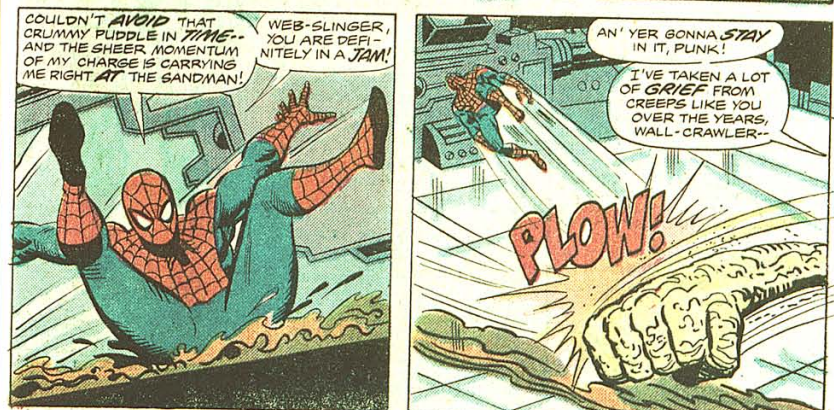
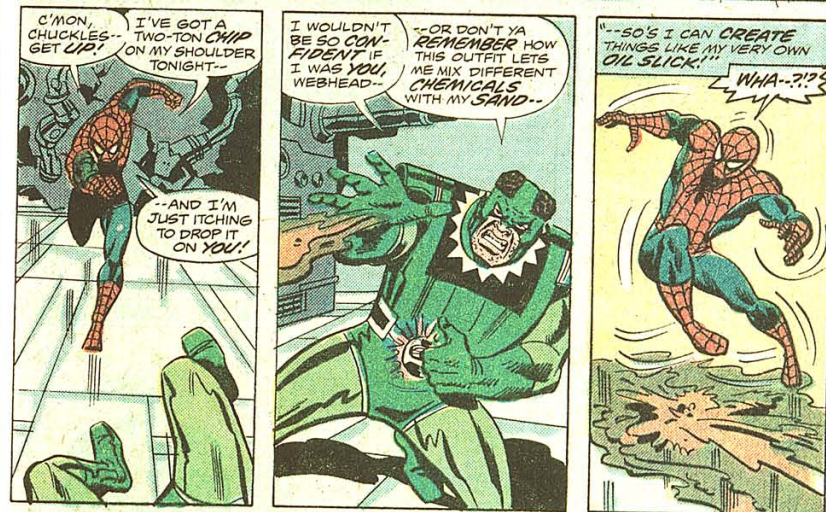
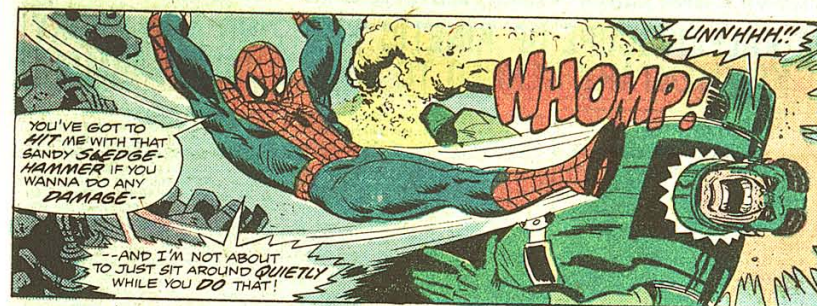
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hey group, let's talk about Cons. Have you noticed how they've been proliferating? (Marv, tell Irv Forbush to relax— it isn't a naughty word!) It seems that every time you turn around someone is having a Comicbook Fan Convention somewhere—and nothing could make us happier. It's about time this country really got into culture! And now, here's an earth-shaking item for our "Don't Say I Didn't Warn Ya" department. For all of you who'll be in the Florida area the middle of this month (December), Yours Truly will be a guest of honor at the big, new Miami Con to be held at the Americana Hotel in Miami Beach from December 17th through the following weekend. I'll also be on hand for the Creation Con at New York's Commodore Hotel on January 3rd— so all non-believers have time to get out of town! But, the biggest kick of all, of course, will be the second annual Mighty Marvel Con which will be held at the selfsame Commodore Hotel here in Fun City during Easter Week! Okay—that's it! Adjust your calendars accordingly and set your time-tables— you know how I hate talking to an empty auditorium. (Especially when it answers back!)

And now, a tip to all you frantic ones who complain about the difficulty of finding your favorite Marvel mags on sale when you want 'em. If you miss out on some of our minor masterpieces because your dealer just doesn't receive enough copies to meet the demand, here's what to do. Ask your proud purveyor of Marvel magic for the name of the wholesaler from whom he buys his magazines. Then, call or write that selfsame wholesaler, demanding that he supply more copies of Marvel Comics to your long-suffering dealer. Yep, your letters and phone calls will let 'em hear the thunders of voices of Marveldom Assembled, as peace and contentment settle once more o'er the ranks of comicbookdom throughout our fair land!

And now, it's back to the ol' type-writer. With ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS comfortably nestled upon the best-seller lists, and SON OF ORIGINS rapidly racing to overtake it, it's time to start work on the third book in our never-ending collectors' series—and wait'll you hear what that one's gonna be called. But—I've gotta save something for next time, so— till we meet again, remember— life can be a breeze, if you take it "cum grano salis"!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! As winter approacheth, and the snows do fall 'pon the trampled earth, mighty-thewed beasts of burden burrow into the deepest, dank caves ready for the long hibernation ahead. Fortunately for you, Faithful One, the burdened beasts of your batty bullpen can barely take the time for a quick snooze, let alone a five-month shut-eye, which is our sneaky way of telling you that Mighty Marvel is on the move again! We'll get into some of our new projects in a paragraph or three, but let us tell ya about a couple of more physical moves—namely, cross-country and county. Take Riotous RICH BUCKLER, the FANTASTIC FOUR's penciller supreme, for one. Not only has Rich taken to work on a whole slew of our favorite covers, but he's also moved back to the Big Apple just to be closer to the home of our boisterous blockbusters! And according to Newton's law—every action requires an opposite reaction, so TONY (The Tiger) ISABELLA has packed his bags and typing paper and made his long trek back to the wilds of Cleveland, where he will pen the awesome adventures of everyone's favorite cycle-star, the GHOST RIDER! And guess who's taking the biggest move of 'em all? Right on the first try—Stainless STEVE ENGLEHART, who's moved from being a bashful bachelor to the mirthful munificence of married life. We'd congratulate you, Steve, but the real congrats go to MARIE-THERESE BEACH, for not only putting up with your complete Marvel Collection, but all those blamed AVENGERS who keep popping in to proofread your paperwork.

ITEM! As for some of those other moves we sorta hinted at a moment ago, well, this is the big month for a couple of duffel debuts. Let's roll out the red carpet and give a great big Marvel welcome to the long-demanded arrival of The Guardians Of The Galaxy, appearing in each and every issue of MARVEL PRESENTS. STEVE (Baby) GERBER and Mighty AL MILGROM pulled out all the stops with this galaxy-busting premiere story. So, join Starhawk and company for a voyage Star Trek never even dreamed of taking. And, while you're rocketing off with the Guardians, it wouldn't hurt to take a slight detour earthward for a peek behind the pages of MARVEL CHILLERS, where a certain wondrous Were-woman named Tigra is making her soul-shattering debut. We don't want to say that even our over-worked mainmen had to finally give in, but your liltin' letters praising Tigra's appearances in GIANT-SIZE WEREWOLF and MONSTERS UNLEASHED are still crowding us out of our under-sized offices.

ITEM! And while we're introducing new artists to your beleaguered Bullpen, let's say hey to Fightin' FRANK THORNE, whose radiant renderings of a certain She-Devil with a sword will be popping out the bleary eyes of more than one love-struck Marvelite. Take a peek behind the pages of MARVEL FEATURE starring Red Sonja and see for yourself. And, while we're mentioning one barbarian, it only stands to reason to mention a few more. If you haven't seen it yet, check out the pages of CONAN, where the epic tale of the beautiful Bêlit has begun. ROBERT E. HOWARD

fans have been clamoring for this classic story for years, and now it's here—as only Mighty Marvel can present it. Big JOHN BUSCEMA and Socko STEVE GAN handle the art! And lastly, if ya promise not to tell anyone, we'll let you in on a scintillating secret. In just a few short months we'll be wingin' at you a third REH hero that you just may have heard of. What was it now—? Oh yeah—the guy's name is KULL THE DESTROYER, and the Bullpenner penning his tales will be none other than Rascally ROY THOMAS, who also scripts the other two battles above. Which just may explain why our Editor Emeritus has taken to carrying his own broadsword strapped to his hip.

ITEM! We've always heard that two's company and three's a crowd, but this is getting ridiculous. If you've been following the frantic adventures of the FANTASTIC FOUR, THE AVENGERS, THE INHUMANS, and THE SONS OF THE TIGER, you just may be familiar with the name Georgeous GEORGE PEREZ. Y'see, unlike most artists who pop a mountainful of Exedrin just thinking about drawing our group strips, George seems to thrive on them, relishing each and every panel, and placing as many team members as he can all over the place. We don't know about you, George, but we're sure of one thing—George? Will someone wake up George, please?

WE'RE NUMBER ONE



WHO IS HE?

Keep watchin', Marvelite, the answer is forthcoming.

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RELAX, M. J., ALL I WANT TO DO IS GET SOME MILK TO HAVE WITH THESE HOSTESS CUP CAKES.

SURE, PETER, ANYTHING TO AVOID REALITY, BUT AT LEAST THIS TIME, YOU LEFT ME WITH A REALLY DELICIOUS SNACK. DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE... CHOCOLATY ICING... CREAMY FILLING.

I HATE HAVING MARY JANE THINK I'M A COWARD, BUT THERE'S NO OTHER WAY I CAN SLIP INTO MY SPIDER-MAN ROLE. AND ONLY SPIDEY CAN HANDLE... MAM MOUNTAIN MARKO!

DON'T LOOK NOW, MARKO, BUT THE MOUNTAIN JUST BECAME A MOLEHILL.

WEBHEAD, WE DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU, BUT WE SURE APPRECIATE THE HELP!

THANKS, GUYS. MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT A QUART OF GRADE-A TO DELIVER.

SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG, M. J., BUT I—ER— GOT A LITTLE BIT DISTRACTED.

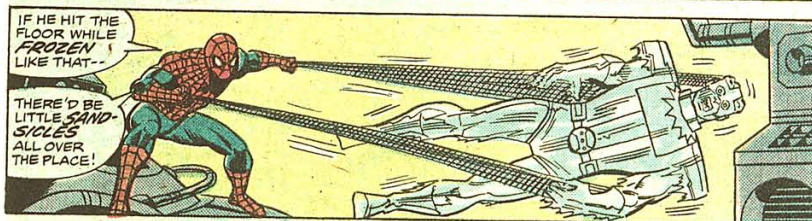
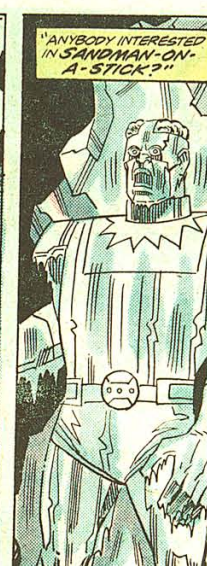
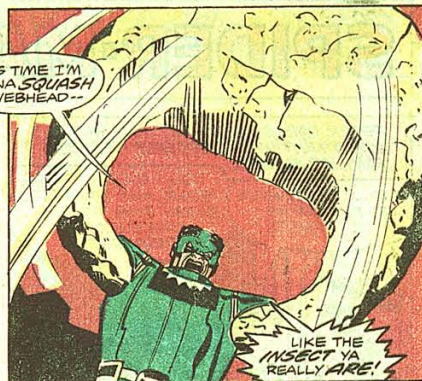
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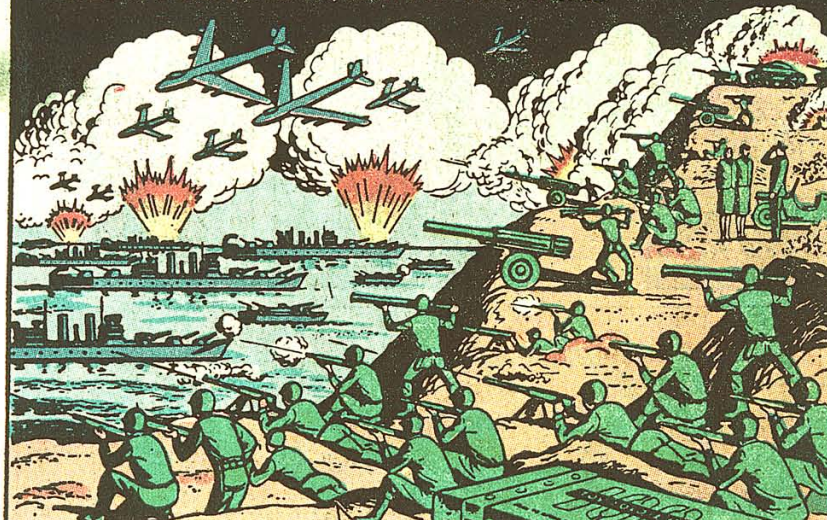
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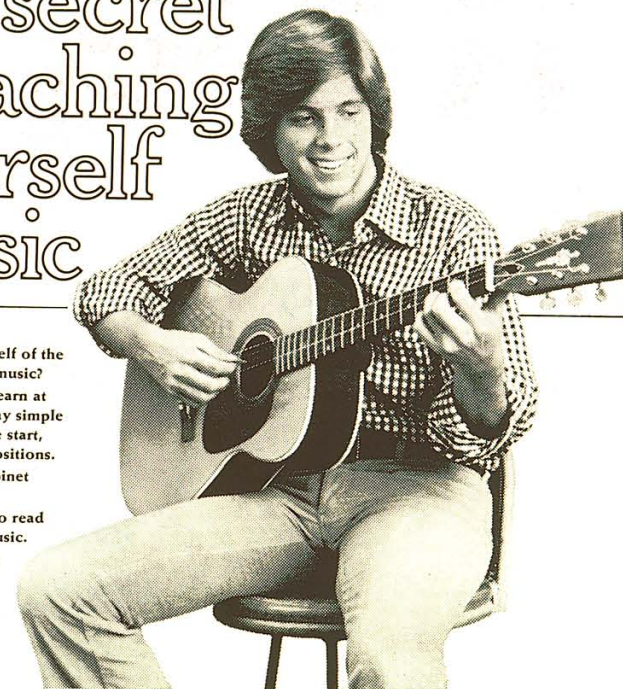
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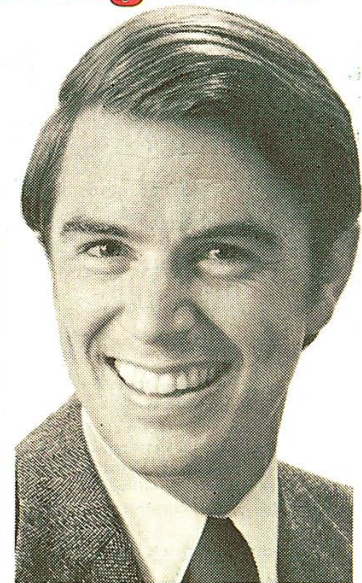
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